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Testimony of Choice Business & Personal Coaching, LLC

IN SUPPORT OF H.B. 6356 AN ACT CONCERNING BENEFIT
CORPORATIONS AND ENCOURAGING SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

Before the Joint Committee on Commerce

February 28, 2013

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee,

My name is Jacqueline Johnson from Granby, and I would like to speak in regard to my support for H.B. 6356, An Act Concerning Benefit Corporations and Encouraging Social Enterprises.

I am a business owner, a consumer, and a long-standing supporter of social enterprise in both those roles. I support this legislation because it will not only help individual social entrepreneurs, but it will also help spark a new wave of innovation within our state's economy. The addition of legally recognized Benefit Corporations in Connecticut will bring new jobs to Connecticut and make our state an attractive home for forward-thinking companies.

H.B. 6356 will enable entrepreneurs to address community problems without relying on public funds or philanthropy, and raise awareness for some of our most complex community-based challenges.

H.B. 6356 provides social entrepreneurs with a simple, standardized way to formalize their commitment to creating public good and provides the general public with a clear mechanism for identifying and verifying a company's commitment to its stated social mission, as well as the true impact of those efforts.

I strongly urge this committee and the legislature as a whole to support H.B. 6356. In doing so, you will encourage social entrepreneurs to help make Connecticut a place where business supports thriving communities and jobs provide our citizens with a meaningful way of making a living

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Johnson